

# **Don't Get Mixed Up**

- **God Warns Against Mixing With Sin**
- **Separation Continues Under the Gospel**
- **Practical Areas Where Mixing Occurs**
- **God's Remedy: Radical Repentance**

From the beginning, God has required His people to be distinct, pure, and fully devoted to Him.

Whenever God's people have blended His truth, with the ways of the world, the result has always been confusion, corruption, and judgment.

God never allows holiness and sin, to coexist without consequence.

This lesson examines the Bible's teaching on spiritual mixing

- why it is forbidden,
- how it happens,
- the damage it causes,
- and God's remedy.

First, we must begin where God begins.

## I. God Warns Against, Mixing With Sin

Through,

### A. God's Warning to Israel Before Entering Canaan

...We see that God plainly warns His people, not to mix holiness with sin.

God said, not to adopt the sinful practices, of the nations they would encounter.

- “**Defile not ye yourselves, in any of these things: for in all these, the nations are defiled, which I cast out before you...**” (read [Lev.18:24-25](#))

Explanation:

- To “**defile**” means — to make unclean.
- God teaches that sin corrupts, both people and societies.

God said,

- “**Ye shall therefore keep My statutes... that the land, spue not you out also...**” ([Lev.18:26-28](#))

Explanation:

- God's judgment is impartial.
- His people would suffer the same consequences, if they practiced the same sins.

As Israel prepared to enter the Promised Land,

God warned them of a danger, far greater than military conflict, which was spiritual compromise.

He knew that sinful relationships, would quietly turn hearts away from Him.

- And so God instructed, “**...thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them... For they will turn away thy son from following me...**” ([Deut.7:1-4](#))

Explanation:

- Mixing with sinful influences, leads hearts away from God.
- Just as clean water becomes unsafe, when mixed with poison, holiness is destroyed, when mixed with sin.

God clearly warned Israel, that mixing with sinful practices, would bring defilement and judgment.

History shows what happened when,

## B. Israel Ignored God's Warnings

Israel's failure to obey God's command, led to spiritual ruin.

- The Psalmist said, "They did NOT destroy the nations, concerning whom the Lord commanded them: <sup>35</sup> but were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works." ([Psa.106:34-35](#))

Explanation:

- To "mingle" means — to blend in.
- Learning sinful behavior, leads to practicing it.

Scripture records the outcome, when Israel ignored God's command, and blended in, with sinful influences. What began as association, quickly became devotion and spiritual collapse.

- The Psalmist said "And they served their idols: ...Thus were they defiled (unclean) with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions." (read [Psa.106:36-39](#))

Explanation:

- Idolatry became a trap, because Israel blended God's worship, with pagan, sinful practices.
- "Whoring" here, means — spiritually unfaithful to God.

God later described Israel's condition, with a striking image.

They had not fully left God — but they had mixed themselves, with the world. He said...

- "Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned." ([Hos.7:8](#))

Explanation:

- "Ephraim" here, is a synonym for the Northern Kingdom of Israel (see Gen.48; Hos.4:17; 5:3; 11:3).
- Like an unturned cake, a life "mixed" with sin, which is intentional blending, not accidental contact, becomes spiritually inconsistent: burned by the world on one side, and undeveloped (or useless) toward God on the other.

God's warnings are clear: mixing holiness with sin, always leads to spiritual harm (which is eternal harm).

These lessons were written for our learning ([Rom.15:4](#)), as...

## II. Separation Continues Under the Gospel

We have clear direction:

### A. Do Not Be Unequally Yoked

Paul warns Christians against, spiritual partnerships or fellowship, that compromise faith.

- He said, "Be ye not unequally yoked together, with unbelievers..." ([2Cor.6:14](#))

Explanation:

- A yoke binds two together.
- Unequal spiritual direction, leads to conflict and compromise.

- Paul goes on to say, "Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord..." ([2Cor.6:17-18](#))

Explanation:

- Separation means — moral and spiritual distinction.
- When the behavior of a Christian, can't be distinguished, from the behavior of the world, there's a problem.

- The Bible says, "And be not conformed to this world..." ([Rom.12:2](#))

Explanation:

- Christians must resist, being shaped by sinful values.
- Two opposing directions, cannot be followed at the same time.

God requires His people to maintain spiritual separation.

Another danger is divided loyalty, through...

## B. Friendship with the World

James explains that loyalty to the world, makes one unfaithful to God.

- He said, “**Ye adulterers and adulteresses** (spiritual adulterers and adulteresses, which means unfaithful one’s), **know ye not that the friendship of the world, is enmity with God?** **whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world, is the enemy of God.**” ([Jas.4:4](#))

Explanation:

- “Friendship” here — refers to shared values and priorities.
- There is no middle ground: Friendship with the world = **hostility toward God**  
Loyalty to God = **rejection of the world’s authority**

- John wrote, “**Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.**

If any man love the **world**, the love of the Father is not in him.

<sup>16</sup> **For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life,** is not of the Father, but is of the world. <sup>17</sup> **And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God, abideth for ever.**” ([1Jn.2:15-17](#))

Explanation:

- The “**world**” — represents sinful desires and pride.

- Jesus said, “**No man can serve two masters...**” ([Matt.6:24](#))

Explanation:

- Divided loyalty, always ends in spiritual failure.
- A heart divided, will eventually choose the wrong master.

Christians must choose, full devotion to God.

God still warns His people against mixing faith, with worldly values.

Let us now apply these truths to daily life.

## III. Practical Areas Where Mixing Occurs

Spiritual mixing, often begins in practical, everyday choices, such as,

### A. Moral and Sexual Purity

God calls His people, to purity in heart and conduct.

- “**But fornication, and all uncleanness... let it NOT be, once named among you...**” ([Eph.5:3-4](#))
- “**to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife,** and let every woman have her own husband.” ([1Cor.7:2](#); see also [Heb.13:4](#); [Matt.19:9](#); [Rom.7:2-3](#); [1Cor.7:39](#))

Explanation:

- God’s standard, allows NO compromise with sexual sin.

- Jesus said, “**...to lust after her, hath committed adultery with her, already in his heart.**” ([Matt.5:28](#))

Explanation:

- Sin begins inwardly, before outward action.

- Scripture says, “**For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye abstain from fornication;** <sup>4</sup> **that each one of you, know how to possess himself, of his own vessel in sanctification and honor,** <sup>5</sup> **not in the passion of lust, even as the Gentiles who know not God;**” ([1Thess.4:3-5](#) ASV)

Explanation:

- “**Sanctification**” means — being set apart for holy use.
- Private sin, is never hidden from God.

Moral compromise begins small, but leads to greater corruption.

Another common area of mixing, involves doctrine.

## B. Mixing God's Truth with Error

God demands purity in teaching and belief.

- Lest we be “...removed unto another gospel...” ([Gal.1:6-7](#))

Explanation:

- Any alteration of the gospel, produces error.

To those who are “unto another gospel”, the Bible goes on to say,

- “...let him be accursed.” ([Gal.1:8-9](#))

Explanation:

- God clearly condemns false teaching.

John wrote,

- “**Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God.**” ([2Jn.9a](#))

Explanation:

- Leaving God’s doctrine, separates one from Him.
- Truth mixed with error, is no longer truth.

Doctrinal purity, must be guarded carefully.

Spiritual mixing often enters, through morals and doctrine.

But, God does not leave His people without hope.

## IV. God's Remedy: Radical Repentance

When sin has entered, God calls for decisive action.

### A. The Call to Repentance

Jesus taught radical measures against sin.

- He said, “**if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out...**” ([Matt.5:29-30](#))

Explanation:

- Jesus emphasizes the seriousness of removing sin, not literal mutilation of one’s body.
- The idea is — amputate sin from your life.

The Bible says,

- “**Repent ye therefore, and be converted...**” ([Acts 3:19](#))

Explanation:

- Repentance means — a change of mind and direction.

Paul said,

- “**For godly sorrow worketh repentance, to salvation...**” ([2Cor.7:10](#))

Explanation:

- True repentance, leads to salvation.

God requires sincere, decisive repentance.

Repentance must be followed, by renewed devotion.

## B. Returning Fully, to God's Word

God's Word restores clarity and faithfulness.

- The Bible says, “**Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, in all wisdom;**” ([Col.3:16](#))

Explanation:

- God's Word, must guide every action.

The Psalmist wrote,

- “**Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?**  
by taking heed thereto, according to Thy **Word.**” ([Psa.119:9](#))

Explanation:

- God's Word is what purifies life.

The Bible confirms,

- “**All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:** <sup>17</sup> **that the man of God may be perfect (or complete), thoroughly furnished, unto all good works.**” ([2Tim.3:16-17](#))

Explanation:

- Scripture fully equips God's people.
- A heart filled with God's Word, resists compromise.

Faithfulness is sustained, by constant devotion to Scripture.

God's remedy for mixing, is repentance and renewed obedience.

## V. Final Thoughts

From Israel, to the church today, God has consistently warned, against mixing holiness with sin.

The consequences, are always severe,  
but restoration, is always possible through godly sorrow + repentance + obedience.

Lessons Learned:

- God's standards never change
- Mixing always corrupts
- Repentance + Obedience, restores fellowship with Him

God calls every soul, to choose faithfulness and obedience:

- Long ago, Joshua said, “**Choose you this day, whom ye will serve.**” ([Josh.24:15](#))